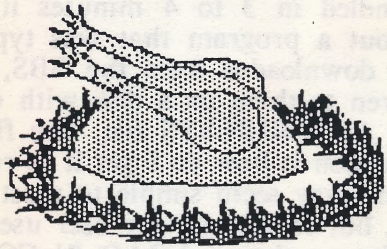
Vol. 4 No. 11 Nov. 1987

LAYTON ATARI COMPUTER ENTHUSIASTS

L. A. C. E.

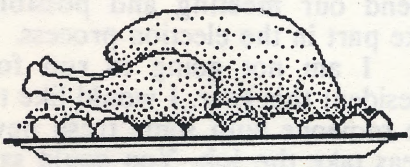
400 800 600XL 800XL 1200XL 65XE 130XE 520ST 1040ST MEGA ST

Happy Thanksgiving



From

L. A. C. E.



LACE, The monthly publication for the Atari Computer owner. Designed to assist the Atari user in the use and enjoyment of their ATARI *computer and accessories.*

All articles may be sent to the editor by phone or mail to: Don Smith
174 S. Lakeview Dr.
Clearfield, Ut. 84015
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Or upload to the L.A.C.E. BBS AT:
627-0490

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Presidents Palace

At home with David S. Young

Did everyone have a safe Halloween? Things are moving right along, and now is the time to nominate people to the offices of club leadership. If you would like to hold a position you are welcome to nominate yourself for that office. In keeping with this I would like to list the offices open for election.

PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY/TREASURER
ST LIBRARIAN
8-BIT LIBRARIAN
BBS SYSOP
EDITOR/ASST. EDITOR

If you haven't noticed we are splitting up the library into two seperate offices.

I have suggested to the IMACE members that in light of the possible merger between LACE and IMACE that they attend our meeting and possibly take part in the election process.

I am not going to run for President this year. I would like to see someone with some fresh new Ideas take the job. You could say I'm getting a little stale right about now. I would like to stay active and would consider being 8-bit Librarian.

Now, for the demo of 8-bit for the next meeting. I have nothing planned, if you are having a problem with software or hardware bring it to the meeting. I'm sure there will be someone that can help you out. This very thing of members helping each other out is the whole idea behind a users group. I receive at least 8 calls a month from club members asking questions about problems they are having. Most of the questions come from people that have had there computer for at least 3 years. The questions are not hard and can be handled over the phone in about 3 to 4 minutes. Of those questions that can be handled in 3 to 4 minutes it is about a program that was typed in, downloaded from the BBS, or given to them on a disk with out an AUTORUN.SYS file. The first question is how do I get it to run. This may seem simple to most of us, but to a computer user use to software that is LOAD 'N GO it can be a very frustrating process.

This brings me to an other issue brought to my attention by a new member that left me a message on the BBS. This new member would like to see an 8-Bit SIG (special interest group) started. He is like myself, happy with the 8-bit and has no imediate plans to run out and buy an ST. He feels that we need a place for 8-bit members to come and bring there problems and bring new ideas to an old system. If you would or know someone who would like to sponsor an 8-bit sig let us know.

Well, enough of the soap box for now. BYE

Veep Ramblings

By Shawn Hart

Howdy. This month I would like to begin my column by saying that I was very pleased with the response to the new format for our meetings. It seemed to me that the level of involvement, as well as the level of enjoyment was much higher than I have seen lately. I was also quite pleased to see a few familiar faces that have't been around for a while. But lest we forget, L.A.C.E. needs to be responsive to its members; so anybody (and that includes you) who has a suggestion that could improve the club, or increase participation, please bring it up at the meeting, or write it up for the newsletter.

This brings me to my second topic for the month. A lot of people (but not all) bought their computers because they wanted to learn how to program but have found the task too formidable to tackle on their own. This is obviously where the resources of a user group can be of use. Other people who have had their machines for a while might be interested in becoming more proficient programmers, or learning how to explore a specific facet of their machine such as sound, animation, telecommunications, nuclear geography, or whatever. In the past this void has been filled by the Special Interest Group or SIG, and I would like to see a resurgence of "SIGs". L.A.C.E. has had several SIGs at various times. These have in general been concerned with programming in a particular language like Atari Basic, C, assembly, or whatever. And these SIGs have had various levels of success, usually petering out through non-attendance of the participants after boring the SIG members by either going over or under their heads, or the "instructor" no longer being able to devote the time required to keep it going.

My current idea for a SIG is to start a programming SIG. Not one that is oriented to a particular language or machine, just programming in general. Instead of someone being the "instructor", and lecturing on a particular subject of the month, what I envision is more of a systems analyst directing a group effort to achieve a particular goal. The group could be subdivided into smaller teams who are trying to code a particular function or sub-routine as assigned by the analyst. In this way a complex task could be divided into tasks based on their difficulty and allow both beginning and advanced programmers to participate. It might also be possible to program different modules in different languages if the main module was written in a language that has a mechanism for calling or including assembler routines or previously compiled modules. And we could

Cont. Veep Ramblings Pg 3
in some cases extend the overall concept across machine boundaries and work on versions of the same program for both eight bit and ST machines.

But it's just an idea. To make it work, we need to have enough people interested to make it worth the effort. Secondly, we need a couple of people to act as the project directors. And finally, we need a couple of good ideas for projects. Who knows, we could even come up with a good enough program to market. But at the least, we'll all probably learn something.

What do you think?
-- Shawn Hart
Veep.

ATARI NEWS UPDATE

The XEP80 80-column adapters are in the Atari warehouse in Sunnyvale and are available for immediate shipment to dealers.

The XEP80 plugs into the 2nd joystick port of any Atari 8-bit computer. Any video monitor can plug into the XEP80 and deliver true 80-column text. An extra port on the XEP80 allows standard parallel printers (ST or IBM compatible) to plug directly into the 8-bit Atari computers.

The driver program for the XEP80 lets it take the place of the E: device. Software that is compatible with the E: device (such as Atari BASIC) will work in 80 columns without modification. Other software that writes directly to the screen (bypassing the OS) would need modification before working in 80 columns.

Atari is working on AtariWriter 80 and Silent Butler 80 to support the XEP80. Delivery dates on these products are not yet set.

The XEP80 retails for $79.95.

The new XE Game System has also arrived in Sunnyvale and is on its way to toy stores and other retailers in the USA.

The XE Game System retails for $149.95. It comes with a sophisticated keyboard, a light gun, and three top games including Flight Simulator II, Missile Command, and Bug Hunt.

NEWSWIRE

From The Chicago Tribune/Courier News

The US government is accusing a 17 year old youth of breaking into AT&T computers across the nation and stealing sophisticated software worth thousands of dollars.

Article supplied by Steve Godun.

Are you a customer of WHITEHOUSE COMPUTER?? Reader Shawn Harmon recently informed us about the rip-off of many by this firm. Current information tells us that the firm has closed and filed bankruptcy.

In the letter received, there were over $200,000 in claims with only $20,000 in assets.

Whithouse Computer is located in Williamsport, PA.

If you are one of the many waiting for goods or you have encountered a few problems, here is what you can do to hopefully get your monies back!

contact:
Bureau of Consumer Protection
1-717-963-4913
Attn: Mr. McGowen

Better Business Bureau
Scranton, PA

United States Postal Inspector

Please write a letter to the B.C.P with a copy to the US Postal Inspector and the PA Better Business Bureau. Include your cancelled check with a full explanation of what you have done to retrieve your goods.

We will keep you informed as this story progresses.

NEWS FROM BRUCE KENNEDY

#: 196624 S13/Peripherals
22-Sep-87
Sb: ZNEWS
Fm:BRUCE KENNEDY 72327, 1500
To: RON KOVACS 71777,2140

Here's the latest for US who know how to hack computers. Let's hear it from our friends at CLAUG in Chicago According to Jon Berry in the September 21 issue of ADWEEK, the people from Microsoft have announced a joint partnership with Amdek in Chicago. Amdek has a CD ROM laserdrive which reads a 550 megabyte capacity CD ROM which contains The American Heritage Dictionary, The World Almanac, The Chicago Manual of Style, Roget's Thesaurus, Bartlett's Quotations.

Now read that into your memory and smoke it! It's called Bookshelf, and is the first major, widely distributed offering in the new technology. Hats off again to Bill Gates, and the innovative people from Amdek.

Don't forget...Amdek were the people who brought Atari the first IBM type plastic case diskettes. We didn't support them, so they soon liquidated a very nice double drive for our machines. Let's look at this system as a hacking community, come up with a way to use it, and support this fine partnership in leading edge technology.

If it's good, the ST can use it!

Atari News Update
#: 197288 S7/HOT News/Rumors
05-Oct-87 14:19:06 Sb: ATARI CLOSES OFFER! Fm: SYSOP*Mike Schoenbach 76703,4363 To: ALL
OTC 10/05 ATARI CLOSES TENDER OFFER FOR FEDERATED GROUP
SUNNYVALE, CA (OCT. 5) PRWIRE - Atari Corporation (AMEX, PSE: ATC) has announced the closing of its tender offer for all of the outstanding shares of the Federated Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: FEGP), effective as of midnight EDT, Oct. 4. Approximately 96 percent of outstanding shares of Federated have been validly tendered.

Effective at 7 p.m. EDT, Atari Corporation extended its tender offer for Federated's shares to midnight, Oct. 4. The tender offer had initially been scheduled to terminate on Sept. 25 and had previously been extended to Oct. 2. The purpose of the further

extension was to allow Atari, Federated, and Federated's bank lenders to complete documentation for the closing.

Atari is an international manufacturer and marketer of personal computer systems and video games. Federated sells home entertainment and consumer electronics products through a chain of retail stores.

CONTACT: Greg Pratt of Atari, 408-745-2349; or Merrill Lyons of the Federated Group, 213-728-5100, ext. 204. -EOF-

Atari Corp. has started shipping its new Mega 2 and Mega 4 computers to authorized Atari business computer centers.

According to Atari, the new 2 and 4-megabyte computers, which are aimed at small-business users, feature a small footprint, separate keyboard, battery powered real-time clock, BLiTTER chip and a bus for plugging in add-on boards and peripherals. In addition, the new machines are compatible with software and peripherals designed for the Atari ST line.

"The Mega demonstrates Atari's commitment to the computer specialty retailer," said Sam Tramiel, Atari's president. "Features in the Mega are the direct result of requests from dealers and business users. The Mega is a professional computer offering the highest performance for advanced business, engineering, desktop publishing, desktop presentation and personal computer applications."

--John Edwards
CompuServe Online Today

FCC Update

Courtesy Antic Online

FCC PROPOSAL TO RAISE PHONE FEES FOR COMPUTER NETWORK USERS (Combined Reports)

Oct. 5, 1987

FCC Chairman Dennis R. Patrick said October 2, 1987 that a proposal to raise telephone fees for computer network users is based on fairness. But users say the plan would crush the fledgling industry.

In testimony before the House Energy and Commerce Telecommunications subcommittee, Patrick said the proposal would charge computer users the same fees now paid by long-distance callers.

Home computer users, say the added costs would force many of them off the computer networks they use to communicate with electronic databases across the country -- exchanging information on electronic bulletin boards, checking stock market reports, making airline reservations, and exchanging public domain computer programs.

Witnesses also told the panel that the higher charges, proposed by the Federal Communications Commission, would drive thousands of computer users -- from hobbyists to doctors -- off their electronic networks and slow the growing use of the technology.

"This would severely retard the coming of the information age," said Allan Conner, president of DunsNet, a company of the Dun & Bradstreet Corp. The

implications of the proposal extend far beyond home computer users.

For example, Conner said, imposing access charges would substantially drive up the cost of automatic authorization of credit cards -- raising the cost of a single verification from the current 12 cents to 19 cents. This cost, he said, ultimately would be borne by the consumer. "Consumers would lose, retailers would lose, the credit card people would lose. The only people who would gain are people who use fraudulent credit cards," Conner said.

The higher charges will reduce the use of electronic information services, slowing or even crippling an infant industry, which in turn will reduce revenues from the fees, he said. "In essence, no one gains and many people lose if this goes forward," he told the House Energy and Commerce telecommunications subcommittee.

Schools would be forced to cut back their use of electronic data bases for research, said John Stuckey, director of academic computing at Northeastern University.

Cutbacks also would be forced at hospitals, where doctors rely on computerized medical data bases for quick reference, said Jacquelline Bastille, director of the medial library at Massachusetts General Hospital. "This is a vital service," she said. "Access to biomedical information is needed quickly. Same-day retrieval is critical to quality patient care."

Higher fees also would drive many of the roughly 750,000 home computer users off the electronic networks they use to read stock reports and news stories, call up airline schedules, and even line up blind dates, said Richard tenEyck of the Boston Computer Society, the largest computer group in the country with 25,000 members nationwide.

"This is a genuine threat to our society," said Rep. Edward J. Markey, D-Mass., subcommittee chairman.

LONE WITNESS DEFENDS PROPOSAL

FCC Chairman Dennis R. Patrick, the lone witness defending the proposal, said government regulators see the issue as one of fairness -- everyone who uses the local phone network should pay the costs of maintaining it. "If we exempt one category of users, that means another category of users will have to pay more," he said. "It's not clear to me it is appropriate in an equity sense if it increases the amount borne by low-income voice users."

"The commission recognizes the valuable role enhanced (information) services play in this nation's information age," Patrick said. But the FCC must also weigh the effects of the proposal on ordinary telephone subscribers, who already are paying similar fees, he said.

Patrick estimated the access charges on information service providers would reduce long distance rates by about 1 percent. "We want to see the (computer) networks evolve in response to the economics of the marketplace... not in response to subsidies," he said.

Rep. Edward J. Markey, D-Mass., subcommittee chairman, noted the strong opposition to the proposal from computer users who have sent him more than 4,000 letters. "Our highest priority must be that these services are available and the information flows freely," he said. With imposition of the proposed access charges, "information services will become the exclusive prerogative of the rich."

The FCC, when it adopted the access charge system in 1982, exempted information service providers from the fees because of the fear that the new industry would not withstand the sudden increase in costs. Now, the FCC believes, it may be time to lift the exemption, but the agency has found scant support for that conclusion. Even some of the local Bell operating companies, which receive the access charges, have reacted with only lukewarm support.

SHARE THE LINE

Users also cite that phone companies . combine such electronic calls so that several of them may be transmitted over the same telephone line. Since standard voice) calls cannot be combined this way, users claim that several users would be charged for the same call.

The proposal would add about $4.50 an hour to the cost of hooking up to information services. For some of the lower-priced services, the additional cost would more than double the hourly rates.

Floyd H. Trogdon, vice president of Telenet Communications Corp., a computer network that connects computer users with information data bases, said the access charges would raise some of its off-peak rates by 500 percent. He estimated that the access charges from the computer industry would lower long-distance rates by less than one half of one percent.

Computer users said electronic information services are already paying their share of phone network costs in a flat-rate surcharge per customer. Markey took the panel on the road to Boston, a high-tech center that has generated much of the opposition to the proposal.

"This (industry) will essentially disappear if the FCC access charges goes through," said Richard tenEyck, telecommunications director of the Boston Computer Society, whose 25,000 members make it the largest computer group in the country. The loss, he said in a telephone interview earlier this week, will cut off these services to many of the approximately 750,000 home computer users, some of whom are handicapped or elderly and use computers as a gateway to the outside world.

Using one of the more than 15,000 electronic billboards on computer networks throughout the country, a computer user with a question about how to handle a tax matter, for example, can dial into a network, pose the question in a message and post it on such a billboard. Readers scanning the different messages can answer the question, posting their message in

the same way.

"That kind of interaction happens on the order of every five seconds throughout the United States," tenEyck said. He added, "One of the ways to make the technology more affordable is to increase the size of the market. Reducing the market is a step backward."

850 INTERFACE MODIFICATIONS

...For BBS SysOps...

by Michael T. Davis

Introduction:

Since I run a BBS here in Ohio, I have the "need for speed" that most SysOps who run Atari (8-bit) based BBS' usually have. One of the things I discovered early in my BBS setup, though, was that the software I was (and am) using (Carina) did not handle premature logoffs well. Instead of detecting the loss of carrier immediately, it just timed out. I was almost positive there had to be a better way.

The second problem I was encountering had to do with the fact that the 850 doesn't reset per se. To reset the interface, you have to toggle the power switch off and on. This can get annoying if you are constantly switching telecommunications software or if your 850 is in a hard-to-reach place.

Solution One:

(First of all, it would simplify matters greatly if you have a 130XE. While the modifications I am going to describe should work with all (8-bit), Ataris I can only give specific directions for the 130XE, as that is what I use. At points throughout the text, I will offer possible alternatives, when I am utilizing an XE-only feature.) The 130XE does not use trigger input four from the missing joystick four port. We can use this input on the GTIA chip (pin ten (10)) to monitor the Carrier Detect line in the 850 almost constantly. (By the way, this would be a good time to put in a plug for Sam's Technical Reference Sheets.. they're great for just this kind of work.) Anyway, first identify the Carrier Detect (CRX) line on port one of the 850. Looking at the port, CRX is the fourth pin from the left on the top row. Now follow this line into the 850. You are trying to find capacitor number 117 (C117). It will be the next-to-last capacitor in a row of capacitors. We will attach a jumper wire to the side of C117 that runs to the 6532 RIOT (RAM, Input/ Output, Timer) chip. Solder it in at that point any way you like.

The other end is a bit tricky for non-XE owners. Actually, the XL series could probably follow the XE scheme, but the locations of the circuitry will be different. For XE/XL owners, solder the other end to pin 12 of the SIO port (either one). Pin 12 is the top right pin, as you look at the port. If you're doing this for a 400/800 setup, you might try pins 9 or 13. Note that using either of these, however, will prevent use for their original purposes (Proceed and Interrupt lines, respectively). This isn't too big of a deal, since no one

has taken advantage of these lines to date.

As for the computer side, simply solder a wire directly from pin 10 of the GTIA chip to pin 12 of the SIO port. Users of computer models other than the 130XE should connect this line from the GTIA to the appropriate SIO line...the same line they connected the jumper wire to in the 850.

Now determining the status of CRX is simply a matter of a PEEK to location 53265 ($D011). It will be either on (1) or off (0). CRX provides an inverted output; that is, if you get a 1, then there's NO carrier, a 0 means there is a carrier.

Solution Two:

Find pin 1 of the 6507 in the 850. This is the Reset line (and it is active low). To reset the interface, we will run a line from this pin, through the SIO cable, to pin 39 of the PIA. Note that this will prevent the use of a cassette recorder (but then who does serious work on cassette nowadays, anyway). Connect a wire from pin 1 of the 850's 6507 to pin 8 of the SIO port. Now, the tricky part: in the computer, cut the trace to pin 39 of the 6520 PIA. MAKE SURE YOU ONLY CUT THAT ONE TRACE!!! Also, to make sure we are geting a clear signal, it would be a good idea to cut the trace at pin 8 of the SIO port in the computer, too. Then connect a wire from pin 39 of the PIA to pin 8 of the SIO port within the computer.

To reset the 850 now, we need to lower bit 3 of PACTL (54018; $D302). In BASIC, this is accomplished with POKE 54018,52:POKE 54018,60. (60 resets PACTL to its original value and puts the 850 back in "normal" mode.) Note that if you wish to write an assembly language routine to accomplish this, you should use a suitable delay between the time that you lower the bit and the time you raise it back to logic one.

Conclusion:

If you have any problems, or you just want to get in touch with me, I may be reached on CompuServe's Atari 8-bit SIG (ATARI8). My User ID is 72337,2075. I am also online in Columbus, Ohio on most of the major Atari BBSes, including Pandora (614-471-9209) ACEC (Atari Computer Enthusiasts of Columbus; 614-471-8559).

BCNU Mike

ST TECHNICAL HELP

By: Mr. Goodprobe

U.A.C.B. (Users Against Computer Brutality)

As we proceed into the first of hopefully many articles with hints, hardware projects, and modifications for your Atari equipment, let me serve notice that I need YOUR questions, advice, ideas, and projects in order to share them with others. I am an electronics technician of 15 years experience, and a father of three amongst other things. I am quick to reveal that fresh, new and exciting ideas can not proceed with consistent regularity from any single human being, we need YOU so we can together provide the hardware information that the

Atari community has so dearly lacked these past few years. I would encourage you to write up a short text file with your project, hardware modification, upgrade, question, idea or any related item, include your name and address so we can give proper credit, and upload that text file to the L.A.C.E. BBS at (801)-627-0490

If you are so kind as to send a text file, please leave me a note and I will take it from there.

Another quick preliminary note, those who truly know me know that I will never say anything to intentionally raise the ire of another human being. But, unfortunately, I am quite sure that this article may upset some computer dealers, and even our beloved Atari corp. I only hope they understand that my motive and intent here is not to defame anyone or anything, but rather solely to forward the cause of the Atari St user, and prolong the life of that great, great computer!

It has come to my attention, through coverage in BYTE Magazine, and on Atari bulletin boards across this fine land of ours that there is a certain questionable, to say the least, fix for some Atari ST's which come up with the "won't boot the drive" symptom. Our one and only very own Calamity Jane recently described to me her lamentable situation when upon receiving her new ST computer in the mail, she proceeded to tickle our funny bones by recounting the fact that when she turned it on, "the screen filled up with bombs, 100's of them everywhere, down the side of her monitor, across the floor and out the door! " She then wondered out loud if there was an entry in the Guiness Book of World Records for the most bombs on an ST screen! When she bravely disassembled her ST she found that the TOS roms were not seated properly in their sockets, in fact were "barely" in the sockets provided for them to occupy! She firmly pushed them down, and all was and is well to this day.

Now, this "fix" which I have mentioned, is supposedly the official Atari fix which states that in the ST factory, if a computer displays this symptom, it is raised 3 to 6 inches from a firm table top and dropped. The resultant force reseats the chips who are the problem makers, and the unit is returned to be boxed, shipped etc. Now I understand the why of this procedure, as there would be not enough time for Atari to do this to each and every St which comes off the line, they would have to drastically raise the price of the ST computer, and that is one thing they do not wish to do, and we don't want them to! When dealing with such a large volume of a unit, sometimes harsh tactics must be taken. BUT!!! This is not the case for the ST user, nor is it the case for the truly caring Atari ST computer dealer and/or Atari ST repair dealer. I personally feel that any dealer/repair establishment that takes this shortcut s doing a great dis-service to his customer. Such tactics can only REDUCE the life of the PC board that makes up the majority of your ST computer,

and can you imagine the wonder it does for the drive in the 1040ST?!?! The PC board in the St is fragile enough as it is, and this would further weaken it. And, the "fix" it provides is temporary at best, and will need it repeated time and time again.

While using my PC Pursuit to its fullest, I can fully remember time and time again seeing horror stories of unknowing users applying this "drop technology", and as the symptom disappears with the first application, many times it soon returns again and again, and the time interval is shorter and shorter between each period of proper computer operation. Then the final blow is dealt to the computer, and a great repair bill results, or a new CPU has to be purchased.

Now that I have shared with you the IMPROPER method of curing this, let us now enter in to a description of the PROPER method of curing this pesky problem.

After placing your ST face down on a soft surface as a carpet sample, take out--520ST-->6 screws holding the top on. 1040ST-->7 screws in the square holes holding the top on.

Turn the unit back over, and place the top back in a safe place. Remove the keyboard by unpluging the cable extending from the right side of it that plugs into the motherboard. Set this assembly with the top of your computer. On the 1040ST you will also need to unplug the power harness and drive cable from the internal disk drive. Place this assembly aside, and then remove the 2 screws from the front side of the internal power supply, unplug the cable and place it aside.

Now remove the screws on the 520ST or 1040ST that holds the shield in place and gently remove it. This completes your disassembly of your precious computer.. .whew! The chips you are going to reseat are labeled U12 and U15. These are the 2 square IC packages, and on the 520ST they are located at the immediate left and upper left of the row of 16 256k rams. On the 1040ST they are located at te right and upper right of the 2 rows of 32 256k ram chips. Make sure you are properly grounded, and if there is a metal clip, sometimes copper in color, remove it for the time being. If there are no clips, please order 2 as they are under a dollar and can prevent this problem in the future. Using a small, flat, jewelers screwdriver, locate the flat edge of the IC socket. Insert your jewelers screwdriver between the socket and the IC and gently pry the chip up and out of the socket. Then place it back in, push down firmly, and replace the clip if there was one. Repeat this procedure with the other IC.

Now locate the 6 TOS roms if you have them in your ST. The 520ST has them located in a row from top to bottom at the far left side of the motherboard. They are located directly below where the internal power supply was in the 1040ST. You do not need to remove these, but rather you

merely need to give them a firm push to make sure they are firmly seated in their sockets.

Reverse the procedure you observed when you disassembled your ST, and your task will be completed.

Now, after having done that, can you see the point I was trying to make? It was not really a hard job, but if multiplied several hundred thousand times over I can see why Atari Corp uses the method they do. And, since the dealer does not have to deal with near this type of volume (boy that would be every dealers dream though!), and since they are the link between Atari Corp.and you, they should endeavor to give you that personal touch and go that extra mile. Sometimes it seems the only great service you can receive is that which you provide for yourself!

The bottom line is this, please, do not use this "official" fix you have heard about, but rather give your pride and joy that extra special caring touch that will hopefully allow it to provide you with many more years of useful service and entertainment. Keep those Atari's hummin!

-Mr. Goodprobe

Editors Note:

If your ST shows any of these symptoms please please don't drop it on the desk top. Follow these easy instructions or if you don't have the nerve to tackle it please take it to your nearest ST service center, they will be happy to do the reseating for you.

New Product Annoucment

Antic announces FLASH 1.5, the successor to the immensely popular version 1.0 of the FLASH terminal program...

FLASH 1.5 features include:

Improved editor

Automatic word-wrap at user -selectable line width.

Paragraph or block reformatting

Search and replace function

Auto-repeat scroll bar

Faster operation.

Enhanced ANSI [VT100] terminal emulation:

Graphic [ine-drawing] character set.

True underlining of text.

Full documentation of supported escape sequences.

Additional file transfer protocols:

CompuServe 'B' protocol for faster file transfers on CompuServe

Ymodem batch file transfer - automatically recognised!

New command language features:

Conditional execution

Branching to user-defined labels

26 user variables

Input from files, dialog boxes, or alerts allow customised DO files

Enhanced **WAIT** command with optional timeout allows improved error detection and correction.

EXECUTE command lets you run **TOS** and **GEM** programs from within **FLASH** [e.g. **ARC.TTP**, command shells, or **GEM** applications like Arcshell and even 1st Word]. Log text to capture buffer. **FREE** command free's memory that the capture buffer has taken.

'History'

Command line history allows you

to scroll back through 64 of your previous command lines and typeahead lines, edit and resend them.

FLASH 1.5 is available as a free update to current **FLASH** owners. Just send your master **FLASH** disk back to us, with $5 to cover shipping and handling, and we'll send your copy of 1.5 out to you the same day we get your disk.

FLASH update
Antic Software
544 Second St.
S.F., CA 94107

WordUp

Announcing **WordUp**, the new standard of word processing on the Atari ST. **WordUp** is the first in a series of superior products that Neotron Engineering (soon to be Neotron Inc.) will be bringing to the ST. **WordUp** reflects the philosophy of a company committed to producing low cost applications that utilize the potential of the ST to make high end tasks easier and more efficient.

WordUp is a full GEM application with multiple windows, desk top icons and all menu selections available from the keyboard (and yes it does work with **Thunder!** -copyright 1986 Batteries Included-in its as you type mode). **WordUp** supports any combination of character sizes, faces and styles on the same line. **WordUp** automatically reformats after any action including automatically spacing the line for font size changes, superscript, subscript and word wrap. **WordUp** is the first ST word processor that allows a graphic image and text on the same line. Additionally, text automatically flows around the image, and, since the picture is anchored to the surrounding text, it will follow the text during editing-unlike most page metaphoric desk top publishers. This brings up a point as to why we choose to identify **WordUp** as a word processor even though it possesses many of the features of a desk top publisher. Perhaps, we should call it a document processor since it facilitates the composition and layout of multiple page documents with it's powerful formatting capabilities while not limting the integration of images and quality of output inherent in desk top publishing.

Through combination of access to the upper portion of the character sets (which contain foreign, scientific and various symbols) and the variable super/subscript feature, mathematical formatting is possible. Tables and columns of text and graphics are easily set up and maintained with the left, right, center and decimal tab ability. Another first, is user selected symbol or automatically numbered footnotes that appear just as they will print at the bottom of the page; thus allowing, as you might guess, full font and line alignment capability (left, centered and justified) along with seeing the relationship of the footnotes to the body text as you

type.

WordUp uses GDOS to output to the printer and the screen. Thus, any third party GDOS compatible printer drivers and/or fonts should work with **WordUp**. **WordUp** will ship with, as a minimum, three faces (Swiss-serif type, Dutch-sans serif type and Typewriter-monospaced courier type) in 10, 12, 18 and 24 point for the proportional faces and Epson FX-80 compatible, Star Micronics NB24-10 compatible and Atari SM804 printer drivers. This should cover most popular 9-pin and 24-pin dot matrix printers; however, we are working on more fonts (a font editor) and printer drivers-especially for laser printers. Don't forget that Atari's soon to be released laser printer will run GDOS.

As you an probably gather, **WordUp** has far too many features to describe in detail here. As a result, we will be sending demos to all dealers on our mailing list in the second or third week of September. If your local dealer does not have one at that time then have that dealer contact us. **WordUp** will ship to dealers in the third week of October. More information can be obtained directly from:

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908 Camino dos Rios
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
USA or:
(805)498-3840
-Shelby Moore 73637,1066
President-Neotron Engineering

New Programs

CALC MAGIC

($24.95, XL/XE and disk, AP0177) is a complete spreadsheet package, featuring programmable macros that enable you to run automated sequences, quick testing of multiple "what-if" conditions, pop-up menu windows and math functions including mean, standard deviation and variance. Standard spreadsheet .DIF files are supported.

CREATIVE PROCESS

($19.95, 48K disk, AP0151) is a tremendous aid in report writing, for business or school. This outline processor features pop-up menus and can help you manage projects, make sense out of long meetings, or monitor works in progress. Creative Process supports the 130XE RAMdisk.
The Catalog 544 Second Street San Francisco, CA 94107 (800) 234-7001.

TURBOBASE

The MicroMod TURBOBASE Integrated Business Application takes full advantage of the 1Mb RAMdisk capability of ICD's Multi I/O Board and speedy SpartaDOS 3.2. This program does the job for business owners seeking a central software system to handle all their financial and administrative data. TurboBase tracks customer and vendor addresses and phone numbers; accounts receivable and payable; inventory and payroll. It contains a word processor and a flexible report generator. $179.95, 48K disk.
MicroMiser Software, Inc. 1635-A Holden Avenue Orlando, FL 32809 (305) 857-6014

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Membership expires - 01/31/88

NEXT MEETING: Nov 4, 1987
HELD AT THE CLEARFIELD DAVIS COUNTY LIBRARY at 7:00pm